

THE ARMY AND THE NAVY.

ARMY NOTES.

Capt. R. J. Gibson, asst. surg., now on leave, has been ordered to report without delay to the comd'g. officer Fort Meade, S. D., for duty with the 17th Inf. in the field.

The resignation of Cadet S. L. Newson, 4th class, U. S. Military Academy, has been accepted by the Secretary, to take effect Dec. 31, 1890.

First Lieut. J. McB. Stenbol, 9th Inf., having been found physically disqualified for the duties of a capt. by reason of disability incident to the service, is, by direction of the President, retired from active service as capt. of inf. from Nov. 4, 1890, the date from which he would have been promoted to that grade by reason of seniority, if found qualified.

The President has nominated Maj. Lewis Merrill, retired, to be lt. col. of cav., under authority of act of Congress approved Sept. 27, 1890.

At Sandy Hook Monday Army engs. tested a new 30-foot rifled gun. Shells were thrown 15 miles out to sea. Private Adley was badly injured, his head being struck by a steel bar which was knocked off the gun carriage by the recoil.

Capt. J. J. Cochran, asst. surg., has been granted leave of absence for 6 months on account of illness. Asst. Surg. Freeman V. Walker has been granted leave of absence for 1 month.

The leave granted Chaplain T. W. Berry has been extended 2 months.

The leave of absence granted 1st Lieut. G. N. Whistler, 5th Art., June 23, 1890, has been extended 6 months.

Capt. T. H. Logan, 5th Inf., has been ordered to report to Brig. Gen. D. S. Stanley, president Army retiring board, San Antonio, Tex., for examination.

Capt. W. J. Wakeman, asst. surg., has been ordered to return from Reno, Nev., to Fort Bidwell, for further duty at the latter post.

Brig. Gen. A. W. Greely, Chief Signal Officer, has been ordered to Jacksonville, Tampa, and Titusville, Fla.; Augusta, Ga., and Raleigh, N. C., on official business.

An Army retiring board has been appointed to meet from time to time at the War Dept., in this city, for the examination of such officers as may be ordered before it. Detail for the board—Brig. Gen. William Smith, Paym'r. Gen.; Lt. Col. Anthony Heger, surg.; Maj. E. C. Bainbridge, 3d Art.; Maj. R. H. White, surg.; Capt. James Chester, 3d Art.; 1st Lt. Constantine Chase, R. Q. M. 3d Art., recorder.

Leave of absence for 10 days, to take effect upon his being relieved from duty at St. Louis, has been granted Capt. J. M. Marshall, A. Q. M.

The leave of absence on account of sickness of 2d Lt. G. W. Martin, 18th Inf., has been extended 1 month.

The board of officers convened at the Army Building, New York City, Nov. 15, for the examination of officers for promotion is dissolved.

First Lieut. M. M. Macomb, 4th Art., has been ordered from West Point to this city, during the week included between Jan. 1 and S. 1891, on public business connected with the Military Academy.

The Army retiring board convened at the War Dept., in this city, Sept. 10, 1890, has been dissolved.

THE NAVY AND MARINE CORPS.

P. A. Eng. Henry Herwig has been ordered to duty at the Washington Navy Yard, Jan. 2.

Asst. Eng. D. W. C. Redgrave has been detached from the Washington Navy Yard, Jan. 2, and ordered to duty at the Columbian Iron Works, Baltimore.

The troops arrived at Samoa Dec. 1.

The trial trip of the cruiser Newark on Monday was successful. She maintained the required horse-power and speed for four hours. She averaged in speed 19-20 knots per hour. Unofficially it is understood that the Newark exceeded 9,000 horse-power, which will give the Messrs. Cramp, the builders, over \$50,000 premium.

It is now believed that the repairs to the Boston, including the replacing of her crank shaft, will be completed by the 1st of February, so that she will join the Squadron of Evolution on its cruise not more than a fortnight late.

The Philadelphia has been taken out of the dry-dock at New York and will be fitted out for a cruise in the West Indies.

Secretary Tracy has awarded the contract for building the American harbor-defense ram to the Bath Iron Works, of Maine, at their bid of \$390,000.

Secretary Tracy has awarded the contract for constructing the naval dry-dock at Port Royal, S. C., to Justin McCarthy, of Washington, at his bid of \$418,915.

By direction of the President, Maj. H. C. Hasbrouck, 4th Art., has been detailed as a member of the commission appointed for the purpose of selecting a suitable site for a dry-dock at some point on the shores of the Gulf of Mexico or the waters connected therewith, etc., vice Col. C. B. Comstock, Corps of Eng'rs., relieved.

PUSSY'S WHISKERS.

They Are By No Means Made Merely for the Wind to Toy With.

South Boston News.

The long hairs on the side of a cat's face are organs of touch. They are attached to a bed of fine glands under the skin, and each of these long hairs is connected with the nerves of the lip. The slightest contact of these whiskers with any surrounding object is thus felt most distinctly by the animal, although the hairs themselves are insensible. They stand out on each side of the lion as well as on the common cat. From point to point they are equal to the width of the animal's body. If we imagine, therefore, a lion stealing through a covert of wood in an imperfect light, we shall at once see the use of these long hairs. They indicate to him through the nicest feeling any obstacle which may present itself to the passage of his body; they prevent the rustling of boughs and leaves which would give warning to his prey if he were to attempt to pass too close to a bush, and thus in conjunction with the soft cushions of his feet and the fur upon which he treads—the claws never coming in contact with the ground—they enable him to move toward his victim with a stillness even greater than that of the snake, which creeps along the grass and is not perceived until it is coiled round its prey. Is this evolution or design?

Some Rich Indians.

Pittsburg Dispatch.

If each tribe of Indians is considered a separate nation then America has the richest nation in the world. The public is accustomed to think of the Indian wards as beggarly and beggarly pensioners upon the bounty of the Government. This is a mistaken view. Poverty-stricken, or even dependent tribes are the exception, while many are well off in this world's goods. One tribe, the Osages, is so rich that there would be \$10,000 to each person, from the veteran warriors whose scars of honor were achieved in battles of three-score years ago, down to the tiniest papoose making his first protest against the barbarous babyboard.

THE REVOLT AGAINST PARNELL.

Said to Be Largely Due to His Frigid Personality.

New York World.

"Parnell," said a well-known local politician yesterday, "is reaping the results of his austerity and exclusiveness. It is all well enough for a man to go through life with an air of such frigid reserve that even his most devoted friends fail to pierce it, and there is no doubt that statesmen whose lives are passed in seclusion and who treat even their intimate associates with lofty disdain secure a wonderful power over all of their confidants. The man who is icy, cold, austere, and shrewd makes a far better leader while his power lasts than the man who secures the affection as well as the assistance of the leading men of his party. No man ever knew Parnell to grow genial or warm over the work of his able lieutenants. If after months of heroic service in jail William O'Brien hurried to Parnell's side he was received frigidly and distantly. He declined to make no man his friend and he sneered at the idea of magnetism in a public leader. No one questions his great and conspicuous ability, his patriotism or devotion to the Irish cause. But the men who have been toiling side by side with him for many years are not capable of blindly worshipping him always. Men like Dillon, O'Brien, and Davitt have been refused even a moment's audience with the leader of the party after traveling hundreds of miles to see him. When the crisis in Mr. Parnell's life arrived he turned to his associates in the Irish cause for support. Practically he commanded them to uphold him. Then came the reaction. The memory of slights and rebuffs extending over a period of many years was too strong to be wiped away in a day. Parnell showed himself a poor judge of human nature in thinking that he could rely absolutely upon his lieutenants when he gave them such a magnificent opportunity for taking their revenge."

BIRD DOCTORS ON THE WING.

The Way a Little Sparrow in Trouble Was Cared for by His Fellows.

New York World.

There was a mass-meeting of little sparrows in West Thirty-seventh street, near Sixth avenue, yesterday at noon. There was a chairman of the group. He didn't have a chair, but he presided over his fellows and what he did they did. There was great chattering and the birdies gathered together on the curb and flitted to and fro in the greatest excitement. On the sidewalk lay a tiny sparrow. He was on his back, his eyes were closed, and he was apparently dead. He was the object of the gathering of his fellows and they pecked at him and trod on him, and on the wing, dashed at him and in every way possible tumbled him about.

A tender-hearted lady passing by rushed up to the feathered tribe and "shooed" them away with her muff and picked up the little one that had apparently been badly hurt. While she was stroking him the birdie opened his eyes and turning quickly over on his feet, shook the dust out of his eyes and before his would-be protector could say Jack Robinson flew to the nearest tree-top as if he was an arrow shot out of a bow.

Straightway all the other sparrows that had been gazing from the branches of a neighboring tree upon what was going on between the lady and their fellow-birdie, fled toward the little one, and then in a grand chirping group they all flew off together. The lady didn't know what to make of it until a birdman smiled when he heard the story. "My dear madam," said he, "what those sparrows don't know there's no use learning. So you thought they were trying to kill their little companion? Not a bit of it. He had become benumbed by the cold, and probably was stunned a little by a fall. When the policeman flung a man benumbed by the cold they club the soles of his feet to circulate his blood and bring him to. That's what those birds were doing. It's a winter custom of theirs, warming their little friend into life by their peckings and roughing and tumbling him about."

Alaska's Pest of Mosquitoes.

Pittsburg Dispatch.

The greatest drawback to living in Alaska is the mosquitoes. The soil is covered with a low moss, in which they breed in the summer, and under which they live in the winter. It is wet and can't be burned off to get rid of them. The Jersey mosquito is no comparison to them. They are large and small, some being so little, indeed, that they can penetrate even the smallest bars of ordinary mosquito netting. White men cover their faces and hands with towels, and tie the trousers around the ankles to keep them away from the body. The sting is painful, and they would soon worry the life out of anybody unprotected. Their numbers are countless, and they swoop down upon you by the thousands. The Indians smear their faces and hands with a pitch which gives them a black appearance. They remove the bark of the fir trees and scrape off the sap on the inside layers. This they use as their protection against the little animals.

Cutting into Hotel Profits.

Pittsburg Dispatch.

"The increase in the cost of living will knock the profits in the hotel business this season," said a local proprietor yesterday. "The expense of keeping a guest is fifty cents per day more now than it was this time last year, but I must say that eatables are not as high as they were two months ago, when new vegetables began to appear in the markets. We depend now on the canned goods to a very large extent, but the dealers have pushed up the prices all around. During the winter guests use large quantities of meat and game, but the failure of the crops indirectly affects everything, and the meats are dear. Even eggs are scarce, and the prices asked for them makes my head swim. I don't think the McKinley bill by shutting out Canadian hen fruit is responsible for the advance, neither have the farmers organized a trust, but the hens seem to have gone on a strike."

Industrial Savings and Loan Ass'n.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 27, 1890.

Mr. Thomas G. Hansen, Secretary Industrial Savings and Loan Association.

DEAR SIR: Your letter of the 27th instant containing a check for \$200, the proceeds of the sale of the four shares of stock owned by my father, the late Dennis Callahan, certificate No. 155, dated July 25, 1887, who died November 4, 1890, was duly received. Allow me to thank you for the promptness displayed in the settlement of this case. The simplicity of your association in combining, as it does, three objects: Savings, paying back, as it does, in cases of withdrawal, all except the first year's dues; loaning to members small sums on long time, and last but not least, the stock in the event of death at \$50 on each share, commends itself to all classes of people. I am respectfully yours, (signed) ANNIE CALLAHAN.

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